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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) The time-limit fixed for the compulsory registration of handlooms was 30th November 1956, as instructed by the Government of India. The Textile Commissioner has been addressed for extension of time. It is expected that time till the end of February 1957 will be given.

(b) & (c) The answers[a] are placed on the table of the House.

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY : May I know whether any penalty is prescribed for the non-registration of handlooms? May I also know the steps the Government are taking for widely publicising that the handloom weavers should register their handlooms?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I may tell the hon. Member that nearly 75 per cent of the handlooms have already been registered and all necessary steps have been taken, certain particulars of which are given in the paper laid on the table of the House.

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : The officers are registering in some places only the house owners and in other places those who possess the looms also. I understand that most of the workers who work for wages are left alone. May I know whether Government have issued any specific orders in this matter?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I would refer the hon. Member to the paper placed on the table of the House.

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY : What is the purpose or the idea behind the registration of handlooms?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I have more than once answered this question on the floor of this House, Sir. The main purpose is to collect the necessary data, which is essential for any scheme for the permanent rehabilitation of the handloom weavers.

Vaigai Reservoir Scheme

* 370 Q.—SRI A. IYANAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Kunnur village in Periyakulam taluk will be affected by the Vaigai Reservoir Scheme; and

(b) if so, the nature of the compensation proposed to be given to the parties affected?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The lands, buildings, trees, etc., affected are being acquired under the usual provisions of the Land Acquisition Act,

[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 234 infra.

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paying compensation in cash in accordance with the valuation fixed by authorized officials of the Revenue Department. Facilities will also be afforded to the displaced villagers for rehabilitation elsewhere. Details for such rehabilitation are under consideration.

Provision of drainage to Kandaparichan channel in Tiruthuraipundi taluk

* 371 *Q.*—Sri A. K. SUBBIAH : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to provide drainage to Kandaparichan channel in Tiruthuraipudi taluk, Tanjore district;

(*b*) if so, when it will be taken up; and

(*c*) its estimated cost?

The Hon. Sri R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) An estimate for the scheme has been received from the Chief Engineer (Irrigation). The question of its sanction and execution can be decided upon only on receipt and examination of the Collector's report on the administrative, revenue, Grow-More Food and financial aspects of the scheme, which is awaited by the Government.

(*c*) The scheme is estimated, at present, to cost Rs. 5·63 lakhs for works.

Prohibition of the import of molasses into the State

* 372 *Q.*—Sri N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any step has been taken to prohibit the import of molasses into this State; and

(*b*) if so, the details thereof?

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN : (*a*) & (*b*) The answer is in the negative.

Sri N. K. PALANISAMY : May I know whether the Government are aware that molasses are utilized only for the purpose of illicit distillation? May I know why the Government hesitate to ban the import of molasses into this State? Is it for the purpose of encouraging offences against Prohibition?

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN : There is at present no restriction on the import of molasses into this State. It is however proposed to amend the Madras Prohibition Act of 1937 by inserting a clause there. This new section which is proposed to be introduced is intended to provide for the control and regulation of molasses which form the largest and most important base used in illicit distillation as was referred to by the hon. Member. The